

Serial No. 10/639,679
Amdt. dated July 22, 2004
Reply to Office action of March 22, 2004

- 4 -

REMARKS

Applicant has canceled claims 1-9 and added new claims 10-14.

Claim 10 includes the subject matter of claims 1, 4 and 5.

Claim 14 includes the subject matter of claims 7, 8 and 9.

The Examiner has rejected claims 5 and 9 as being unpatentable over Foster in view of Pridgeon. Applicant respectfully disagrees. Foster discloses a checkerboard with removable squares and having gripping means. However, the gripping means is constituted by recessed portions. Pridgeon discloses raised pins 24; however, such pins extend from pieces 16 that are movable on a game board. Pridgeon does not disclose a checkerboard with mobile squares having raised gripping means. There is no teaching or suggestion to replace the recessed portions of Foster with the pins 24 of Pridgeon.

Similarly, none of the references disclose a game kit comprising a draughtboard with mobile squares having raised gripping means, and pieces having bottom seats accommodating the raised gripping means. The bottom seat 28 of Pridgeon is used only to accommodate pin 24 of another piece so as to form stabilized stack (see col. 2, lines 15-18).

In view of the above, since none of the references, either singly or in combination, teach or suggest applicant's claimed invention, it is asserted that claims 10-14 are patentable over the cited references and are asserted to be in condition for

Serial No. 10/639,679
Amdt. dated July 22, 2004
Reply to Office action of March 22, 2004


- 5 -

allowance. Reconsideration of rejection is respectfully requested and an early and favorable action is earnestly solicited.

Applicant hereby requests an extension of time for one(1) month through July 22, 2004, in order to timely file this amendment. A check in the amount of \$55.00 is attached herewith for the extension fee.

Please charge Deposit Account No. 19-2105 for any additional fees required to be paid in connection with this submission.

Respectfully submitted,



Josefino P. de Leon
Reg. No. 33,166

SHLESINGER, ARKWRIGHT & GARVEY LLP
3000 South Eads Street
Arlington, Virginia 22202
(703) 684-5600
lm